

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Reconsideration of this application is requested. Claims 18, 20, 23, 31, 33, 41 and 45 to 49 are pending. The pending independent claims are 18 and 49.

This Amendment After Final should be entered because it makes claim amendments suggested in the Action. The objections to the claims have been overcome by amending claims 18, 23 and 46 in the manner suggested in the Action. These amendments are not being made to distinguish prior art.

The rejection of claims 18, 20, 23, 41 and 45 to 49 as being anticipated by Yasui et al (US Patent 5,248,963 -- Yasui) is traversed.

Independent claims 18 and 49 recite an LCD erasing device that applies a signal to the electrodes for the pixels after the LCD power is turned off. In particular, claim 18 recites that a "source enable signal" is applied "at a selecting level during the certain period [which is a period following power being turned off, and the selecting level] is inputted into said source driver circuit so that said pixel electrode and said opposing electrode receive an OFF voltage that turns OFF a liquid crystal." See, e.g., Appln. pp. 39-49 (emphasis applied).

Yasui discloses supplying a common potential to both a display electrode 12a and a counter electrode 12b within a time (T) after the power is turned OFF (see column 6, lines 3 to 6). Yasui discloses that pixel data (D) is set to a logic "0" to clear the display. Yasui, col. 3, lns. 59-61. The pixel data is loaded into a shift register and then applied to

the pixels. Yasui does not disclose a feature in which a "source enable signal" is inputted to the source driver control circuit during a predetermined period after the power source is turned OFF.

The Action mischaracterizes Yasui with respect to the power holding circuit 22 and power circuit 23 which apply a post-OFF voltage to the gate bus drive circuit 17, rather than the source bus drive circuit 16. *See* Yasui, col. 4, lns. 59-64. Contrary to the Action, the power holding circuit 22 and power circuit 23 and associated capacitor 25 and inverter 27 (not identified in drawings) relate to the gate bus drive circuit 17 and not to the source bus drive circuit 16. The Action states that a capacitor (25), a resistor (26), an inverter (27), and a voltage  $V_B$  correspond to the source driver control circuit, and the source enable signal respectively. However, as is clear from Fig. 5 and the descriptions in column 5, lines 8 to 53, these elements are provided for supplying a voltage  $V_{CL}$  to a gate bus driver circuit 17, and have nothing to do with a source bus driver circuit 16. Yasui teaches that a post-OFF signal high-level output voltage ( $V_{CL}$ ) is applied to cause the gate bus driver 17. Yasui, col. 5, lns. 31-64). The  $V_{CL}$  high-level output voltage causes the TFTs for each pixel to be turned ON such that the source bus driver 16b to apply a common potential to the display electrodes. Yasui, col. 5, ln. 59 to col. 6, ln. 11.

The generator for the source control signals (D, PCK, and M) for the source bus drive circuit is not disclosed in Yasui. It would be wrong to assume (as is done in the Action) that the control signals (D, PCK and M) for the source bus drive circuit are the same as the gate bus drive circuit. It would be contrary to Yasui's teaching of controlling

the gate bus driver to erase the pixels to rather use the source driver control circuit to erase pixels (as is done in the present invention).

Unlike Yasui, claim 18 herein recites that a source enable signal is inputted to the "source" driver control circuit at a "selection level" during the predetermined period after the power source is turned OFF. Such use of the "source" enable signal does not complicate the circuit arrangement and allows application to the pixel electrode and the opposing electrode, a voltage for turning OFF the liquid crystal. because Yasui teaches display erasing by means, (e.g., gate control and loading "O" into source driver) other than a source enable signal, it teaches away from the invention recited in claim 18

Claims 45 and 49 recite "rectangular wave signals" being applied by the LCD erasing means. In particular, claim 49 recites that the erasing means "applies rectangular wave signals, identical in terms of phase and potential, respectively into said pixel electrode and said opposing electrode during the certain period" which follows the power source being turned off. *Id.* In contrast to claim 49, Yasui discloses applying a constant common (ground) potential to both the display electrode 12a and the counter electrode 12b within the time T after the power is turned OFF (see column 6, lines 3 to 6). Yasui (column 1, line 52) states "common potential EG (zero volt", the "common potential EG" is the ground potential.

Yasui teaches that a ground potential EG is supplied to both the display electrode 12a and the counter electrode 12b within the time T after the power is turned OFF. Yasui (column 5, line 6, to column 6, line 1) describes that "[t]he source bus driver 16b is

arranged so that the potential as its output terminal goes to the common potential EG at substantially the same time as the operating voltages  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$  and  $E_3$  drop to the common potential". Yasui discloses in column 6, lines 3 to 6 that a common potential is supplied to a display electrode 12a and an opposing electrode 12b (a DC voltage  $E_2$  is supplied to the opposing voltage 12b) within a time (T) after the power is turned OFF. The above parenthetic disclosure of Yasui merely teaches that within a certain period (T), the voltage  $E_2$  is supplied to the opposing electrode 12b. Yasui fails to disclose or suggest the structure of supplying the voltage  $E_2$  after an elapse of certain time (T) after the power source is turned OFF. Yasui fails to disclose or suggest the structure of supplying the voltage  $E_2$  after supplying the ground potential EG.

The Action incorrectly characterizes Yasui as disclosing at column 6, lns. 1-11 (see also column 3, line 58 to column 4, line 16), that a DC voltage ( $E_2$  and common) is supplied to the display electrodes 12a and 12b by the source buses 14<sub>t</sub> through 14<sub>i</sub> through 14<sub>n</sub> to clear the display. Yasui (column 1, lines 45 to 60) states that the  $E_2$  is a DC voltage. This description in Yasui indicates that a DC voltage is supplied to both the display electrode 12a and the counter electrode 12b within the time T after the power is turned OFF.

Yasui does not disclose the rectangular wave signals, recited in claim 49, that are identical in terms of phase and potential, respectively into said pixel electrode and the opposing electrode. Yasui states that during the certain time (T) after the power source is turned OFF, a constant common potential (EG or  $E_2$ ) is supplied to the display electrode

12a and the opposing electrode 12b. Yasui fails to disclose the structure wherein rectangular wave signals that are identical in terms of phase and potential are supplied to the display electrode and the opposing electrode.

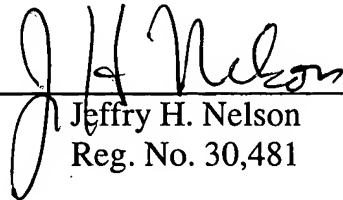
The rejection of claims 31 and 33 for obviousness over Yasui is traversed for the reasons stated above for claims 18.

All claims are in good condition for allowance. If any small matter remains outstanding, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned. Prompt reconsideration and allowance of this application is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

**NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Jeffrey H. Nelson  
Reg. No. 30,481

JHN:glf  
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor  
Arlington, VA 22201-4714  
Telephone: (703) 816-4000  
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100